

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 079660 TOSEC 030011
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AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 079660 TOSEC 030011

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT: CABLE HIGHLIGHTS

ANKARA FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

FOLLOWING ARE CABLE HIGHLIGHTS FOR MARCH 28, 1978:

1. KOREA SAYS NO TO TITO PROPOSAL. SEOUL HAS RESPONDED
NEGATIVELY TO THE YUGOSLAV PROPOSAL FOR THREE-POWER TALKS
WITH THE U.S. AND NORTH KOREA. THE ROK DISTRUSTS YUGO-
SLAVIA'S INTENTIONS, AND THINKS THAT NORTH KOREA WOULD USE
SUCH TALKS TO ATTEMPT DIRECT BILATERAL TALKS WITH THE U.S.
(SEOUL 2518, CONFIDENTIAL)

2. ZIA SAYS GENERAL ELECTIONS ONLY MONTHS AWAY. AT A
MARCH 27 PRESS CONFERENCE, GENERAL ZIA REAFFIRMED HIS
COMMITMENT TO HOLD ELECTIONS IN A MATTER OF "MONTHS," AND
AGAIN ENDORSED THE IDEA OF A PRESIDENTIAL SYSTEM FOR
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PAKISTAN, AND AGAIN RULED OUT A LONGER-TERM POLITICAL ROLE
FOR HIMSELF. HE SAID HE WILL ANNOUNCE ON MARCH 30 WHETHER
THE BAN ON POLITICAL ACTIVITY WILL BE EXTENDED. (ISLAMABAD
3051, CONFIDENTIAL)

3. CEAUSESCU VISIT: AN OPPORTUNITY. THE CEAUSESCU VISIT
COMES AT A CRITICAL TIME: THE POST-TITO, POST-BREZHNEV

ERA INEXORABLY APPROACHES, AND ROMANIA IS REACHING THE LIMITS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNDER "TRADITIONAL" COMMUNISM. CEAUSESCU'S AGENDA WILL BE LARGELY ECONOMIC, BUT GLOBAL POLITICAL ISSUES WILL AFFECT OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. (BUCHAREST 1993, CONFIDENTIAL/EXDIS)

4. SOVIETS PLEASED AT FRENCH ELECTIONS RESULTS. THROUGH THE PRESS AND PRIVATE CONVERSATION, THE SOVIETS HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY ARE HAPPY WITH THE CENTRIST- GAULLIST VICTORY IN THE FRENCH LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS. MOSCOW IS COMFORTABLE WITH GISCARD'S FOREIGN POLICY, AND EXPECTS POLITICAL ACTION TO SHIFT TO THE LABOR UNIONS. (MOSCOW 5951, CONFIDENTIAL)

5. KAPUWO ASSASSINATION: TENSION HIGH. THE MURDER OF CHIEF CLEMENS KAPUWO, THE TURNHALLE PRESIDENT, IN WINDHOEK HAS CAUSED TENSIONS BETWEEN HERERO AND OVAMBO PEOPLE THERE.. THE PRESS BLAMES SWAPO FOR THE CRIME, BUT THE GOVERNMENT IS RESERVING JUDGEMENT. (CAPE TOWN 604, CONFIDENTIAL)

6. SYRIA PROMOTES CEASEFIRE. SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM SAYS LEBANON CAN AND SHOULD MOVE MORE SWIFTLY TO DEPLOY TROOPS IN THE SOUTH. HE PROMISED THAT DAMASCUS WILL COUNSEL THE PLO TO OBSERVE THE CEASEFIRE. (DAMASC 1723, CONFIDENTIAL)
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